

nor printed, nor published any thing to provoke the prosecutor to wrath; and that though they had been guilty of the foulest Libel, they would be excuseable in the eye of the law, because they have * been highly provoked and aggravated by him; or if that makes a libel, they insist that he has been guilty of more than one, that he has deliberately committed acts for which he merits severe reprehension; § for those acts *have had* the foul tendency to sow divisions and create animosities among the citizens, and distraction in the society; those acts might have impelled good subjects and useful citizens, (already too ill used by his former conduct) into violence. They maintain that he is the aggressor, that he has acted illegally, ¶ contrary to the plain import of the Ordinance in letter and spirit; that he has attempted to introduce military discipline over the Merchants and Citizens; that to establish it he has violated the law, and insulted the whole body thereof, by his menacing and indecent language on the Parade, ‡ by his open declaration that he would interpret the articles of the ordinance according to his judgment of them, † by holding military courts; by issuing and causing to be executed military sentences; and they do farther maintain that because he could not succeed in this establishment, he wishes now to introduce a judiciary despotism in the form of libels; from all which, gentlemen, you may collect, that while his Majesty's Ministers are preparing a free government and liberal constitution for this province, the prosecutor seems to be forming projects to counteract his Majesty's gracious intentions, and to render them of no avail; that at an enlightened period when libels are exploded throughout the British dominions, on account of their evil tendency, they are introduced by the prosecutor *in terrorem* over the heads of the inhabitants of this country.

* The orderly Book of the British Militia, if not destroyed or mutilated will prove all this.

§ This can be proved by numberless witnesses. ¶ Examine the Ordinance.

‡ This fact is proved by more than one credible witness. See appendix No. 2.
† See which is a copy of the order in which he publishes such his intention.